

West Hartford Clean Energy Task Force

Meeting Agenda

Date: July 16, 2014

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Rm 422

Attendees: Chris Nelson, Bernie Pelletier, Judy Allen, Kate Flaherty, Beth Papermaster, Jeff Huang, Bill Mellow, Max DuBuisson, Mike Sullivan, Roger Smith, Catherine Diviney

- Introductions
 - *2 Clean Water Action interns came for part of the meeting*
- CEFIA Solarize contact list – letter (wording?), email (Bernie’s draft)
 - *Bernie indicated that email to 400+ solarize contacts was ready to go out pending Chris N’s edits.*
 - *Bernie thinks Mailchimp (suggested by Roger) is a very cool tool for sending out bulk emails/letters and maybe we should use it for the CEFIA’s Smart E-Loan letter that they want us to send.*
- Sagewell/Thermal Image – 1302 Images, 289 HES, 176 HVAC, 192 Solar, 76 Financing
 - *For comparison, Catherine mentioned that to-date 1,200 of WH’s households had done energy assessments. We would like to get more information from Tim about how many of these leads are actually turning into projects. Catherine will follow up.*
 - *There was discussion about when this program should end and what other outreach we should do. Bernie mentioned that human nature needs an “end date”; we saw this in solarize where people don’t sign up until the very end of a program. There was loose agreement that we should keep it running through summer and into early fall, since many people are away during summer and don’t really think about energy/insulation, etc. until it starts to get cold. We think Tim will be OK with this. Need to check-in.*
 - *Outreach ideas: Remind every Town Council member to get their image. Check with Renee/Patience on town emails and Town Council briefs, publicize end-date.*
- Recycling/Composting – meeting with Covanta, early August
 - *Tentative meeting August 4, 2012 (Catherine needs to confirm whether task force invited to this or still initial internal planning mg) Organics*

recycling is happening. Plan is to roll out to 4 large prep-kitchens (Conard, Hall, KP, and Sedgwick) in fall and to all 16 cafeterias in Jan.

- *Large group of stakeholders: Task force, Town, Covanta, DPW, Facilities, Growing Great Schools, School staff, Environmental Clubs, students, etc.*
- *Benefits to Town: PR, educational for students, right thing to do, DPW will get a reduction in cost on disposal of organics compared to trash. Amount TBD.*
- *There was discussion around the questions of where the organics are going initially? Initially the organics will be going to the same trash facility as before. When Covanta/Turning Earth bio-digestion facility in Southington come on-line in 2015? Then waste stream will be diverted there. Covanta is interested in starting training/education/ process early and building good-quality stream for when plant comes on-line. There was concern about how this looks to the schools/press if we are doing all this work separating organics for nothing. Chris N indicated that the Southington facility is still in permitting phase with state so it will be a while before it is operational and was going to talk to John Phillips in DPW about the possibility of an interim solution of sending organic waste to Harvest Power/Ellington Facility. Catherine will also talk to John about the task force's concerns about dealing with this "issue" head-on so it did not come out later in a bad press story...*
- *Catherine mentioned that no more progress had been made on some of the smaller recycling items that the task force had talked about with Dave Gabrielle: Biz Letter from Chris, Town Chamber of Commerce sound-bite, case studies or awards for stellar town business recyclers, targeting/training haulers themselves, adding more business information to Town recycling website.*
- *Jeff mentioned, as an example, that his apartment complex does not have enough recycling capacity and did not know who was responsible.*
- *Hotel Delmar letter sent 7/12/14*
 - *Catherine shared a copy of the letter (requesting more information about the preliminary LEED scorecard and requesting a presentation to the WH-CETF). Letter was emailed on July 9 to the architect Israel Smith, Smith Buckley Architects and developer Dan Mattos, Matos Group LLC. No response yet. Todd Dumais, Town Planner, and Director of Community Services, Mark McGovern, are in the loop and supportive. She will follow up.*
- *All-sports council follow-up – next meeting Sept., Judy's sign, clear bags*
 - *Next Meeting will not be until Sept. Catherine said that Dave had ordered bags that could be distributed.*
- *Focus for new initiatives discussion*

- Update Energy Plan - *Bernie mentioned again we should look at Hartford's new plan. Catherin mentioned how existing 2009 plan focuses only on Town operations and was to be expanded to include community/business.*
- Recycling - *talked about getting Mayor involved*
- Case studies
- Recognition
- Other Ideas? - *Promoting HES, training realtors – idea mentioned that some realtors give HES as gift to new homeowners/customers*
- *At next meeting, Catherine will provide overview of existing energy plan, some current energy stats and we will discuss people's interests and forming groups to focus on future area for work.*
- *We went around the table and everyone indicated what their primary interest was for future task force activities.*

Task Force Interest for Future Initiatives

- Chris
 - Recycling
 - Energy
- Bernie
 - Updating Energy Plan
 - Outreach to residents/businesses
- Judy
 - Recycle (reduce consumerism)
 - Plan – Climate change (speakers?)
- Kate
 - Recycling (biz)
 - Composting (schools) --- > residential
- Beth
 - Recycling – education, incentive for business, model for state
- Jeff
 - Clean Energy (renewables)
 - Recycling – renters, apartments, commercial
- Bill
 - Energy inventions
 - Town/money for biz opportunities and demand pull (folding this into Energy Plan?)
 - Early Adopters – what does state do, don't reinvent the wheel
- Max
 - Energy Efficiency – new to town, new homeowner
 - Recycling – pricing
 - Energy Plan Metrics
 - Green House Gas inventory?
- Roger
 - Above & Beyond
 - Update Energy Plan
 - Expand to Community – set goals, personal relationships, state programs (may look different in future)